

BOTETOURT COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD

October 15, 2020

On October 15, 2020 a regularly scheduled meeting of the Botetourt County Electoral Board was held in the second floor conference room of the Botetourt County Circuit Courthouse. All Board members were present. Traci Clark, the General Registrar/ Director of Elections, was also present. Chairman John Rader called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Traci presented the Board with an agenda, as well as with exhibits and detailed notes on each agenda item. The notes are attached and incorporated into these minutes. Upon a motion by Vice-Chairman Steve Vaughn, the minutes from the September 14th meeting of the Board were approved as presented.

Traci then gave a report on the equipment purchased with Federal CARES funds. All of the additional equipment has now been received. There was a balance of \$2061.25 remaining. This would be used to compensate the PEOs who worked during the early voting period.

The Board and Traci then had a lengthy discussion on numerous issues relating to the General election scheduled for November 3rd. Traci reported that early voting had gone very well. She estimated that a total of approximately 9,000 voters will have voted early or voted by mail by election day. This would significantly reduce the number of citizens voting in person on November 3rd. All agreed however that we should continue to plan for a heavy turnout

The Board and Traci also discussed the pre-election testing Of the EPBs and scanners, providing the biggest precincts with additional equipment and PEOs, the training of the PEOs, the ballot tracking assistance offered by the USPS, and the possible presence of approved poll watchers and high school pages in the precincts. Traci opined that overall execution and preparation for the General election was proceeding satisfactorily.

Traci then reported on the Courthouse remodeling project. She had met with the committee appointed by the Board of Supervisors and also with the project architects. There was some sentiment that the Registrar's office would be moved to the Courthouse. Traci opposed this because all visitors to her office would then have to be screened, and because there was no street-accessible location in the Courthouse to store the voting machines and other election equipment. Also, early voting could not conveniently take place in the Courthouse, especially when Court was in session. The Board concurred in Traci's opinion.

The Board's next meetings would take place in conjunction with the November 3rd election, and on the canvassing of the votes beginning on November 4th at 11:30 am. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Buck Heartwell, Secretary